



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL  
720 KENNON STREET SE RM 214  
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20374-5012

JAN 13 2017

VIA FIRST CLASS AND CERTIFIED MAIL -- RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

GET Engineering Corp.  
Attention: Leslie Adams, General Manager  
9350 Bond Avenue  
El Cajon, CA 92021

SUBJECT: SHOW CAUSE LETTER – GET ENGINEERING CORP.

Dear Ms. Adams:

As the Suspending and Debaring Official (SDO) for the Department of the Navy (DON), I am authorized to take administrative action, including suspension and debarment, against Federal Government contractors who are not presently responsible. My authority extends to any individual or legal entity that conducts business with the Federal Government, either as a contractor or subcontractor. In order to address concerns regarding present responsibility, I may suspend or debar individuals and legal entities from Government contracting opportunities pursuant to the process outlined in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 9.4.

Federal agencies give special consideration in the award of contracts to certain businesses entities based on socioeconomic public policy goals established by statute and regulation. A Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB), as defined in 13 C.F.R. 127, is one such business concern.

Based on my review of the System of Award Management (SAM), it has come to my attention that GET Engineering Corp. (GET) is currently representing itself as a WOSB. However, GET's status as a WOSB in SAM has changed twice over the last three years. Most recently, on November 21, 2016, GET updated SAM to note its status as a WOSB. Previously, on a SAM renewal submitted January 19, 2016, GET did not identify itself as a WOSB. Before that, on a SAM renewal submitted October 31, 2014, GET identified itself as a WOSB. Given the special consideration in the Federal contracting award process that comes with WOSB status, I am concerned with GET's relatively frequent changes in WOSB status over the previous three years.

I also have reviewed GET's company profile on SeaPort-e and note that as of November 14, 2016, GET was listed in SeaPort-e as a WOSB. This is consistent with the Technical Proposal for GET's SeaPort-e contract proposal submitted to the DON (Solicitation No. N00178-13-R4000), which states that GET is a "Woman Owned Small Business." Yet, in the "Representations and Certifications" Amendment to GET's SeaPort-e contract proposal, GET did not certify that it was a WOSB. I am concerned GET's company profile in SeaPort-e lists a WOSB status that is inconsistent with the WOSB status stated in the "Representations and Certifications" it submitted to the DON in its SeaPort-e contract proposal.

Finally, on January 11, 2017, I reviewed GET's "About Us" webpage ([www.getntds.com/aboutus.html](http://www.getntds.com/aboutus.html)), which notes GET is a "Small Business Woman Owned." Previously, on June 9, 2016, GET's "About Us" webpage noted that GET was a "Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB)." It appears that sometime after June 9, 2016 GET changed the terminology on its website from WOSB, a term clearly defined in 13 C.F.R. 127 and understood by Federal Government contracting officials, to an ambiguous term (Small Business Woman Owned). I am concerned that this might lead the casual observer to conclude that GET is a WOSB, which may or may not be the case.


Given my concerns about GET's WOSB status and representations, I ask that you address the following:

- (1) Clarify if GET is currently a WOSB as defined in 13 C.F.R. 127 and explain GET's rationale for claiming WOSB status.
- (2) Provide any certifications regarding WOSB status that GET has made in SAM over the last five years.
- (3) Explain the reasons for any changes in GET's status as a WOSB in SAM over the last five years.
- (4) Address whether GET is currently representing itself as a WOSB in SeaPort-e.
- (5) Explain the reasons for any changes in GET's status as a WOSB in SeaPort-e over the last five years.
- (6) Explain the discrepancy between GET's company profile on SeaPort-e, which lists GET as a WOSB, and GET's Representations and Certifications submitted as part of GET's SeaPort-e proposal which do not identify GET as a WOSB.
- (7) Address when and why GET's website was updated from "Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB)" to "Small Business Woman Owned."

This letter is provided as an opportunity for you to address the above concerns and to provide any additional information you feel is relevant to show that GET Engineering Corp. is presently responsible.

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Please submit written materials in response to this letter within thirty days.<sup>1</sup> Electronic submission by email is encouraged, provided that you confirm receipt. Questions and materials should be addressed to (b) (6), Assistant Counsel, Acquisition Integrity Office, 720 Kennon Street SE, Bldg. 36, Rm. 214, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5012; Email: (b) (6).mil; Phone: (b) (6).



CATHERINE L. KESSMEIER  
Suspending and Debarring Official  
Assistant General Counsel  
(Acquisition Integrity)

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<sup>1</sup> Any written materials provided in response to this Show Cause Letter will be incorporated into our file for this matter, and are subject to release to third parties under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Materials that you consider to be proprietary, or that include attorney-client privileged information, or that would otherwise be restricted from release under any exception to FOIA, should be marked as such; these materials will be protected from release to the extent permitted by law, regulation, or policy.